

A Remonstrance and Protestation of all the Good Protestants of this Kingdom, against Deposing their Lawful Sovereign King James II.

Since it is evident to the whole World, that the present State of this Kingdom is a *State of Force*; and that after all the pretence of *Property*, there is no *Law in England* but the *Long Sword*; and that upon that Foundation Our present *Architects* are raising the Fabrick of their *New Government*: We who profess our selves to be *True Protestants*, and *Tenderers* of the *Honour* of our Religion, then of our *Lives*; do think our selves obliged, in *Conscience*, to vindicate our Reputation to Mankind, by declaring our *Dissatisfaction* to the present Proceedings, and making a *publick Protestation* against the Authors of them.

It is true, The *Fears* and *Jealousies* we have had of the coming in of *Poperie*, by the Influence some Great Men of that Religion had upon *His Majesty*; improv'd by the daily Reflections that were made, and the *Ill Turn* that was given to every Act of State, by some *Malignant Spirits* among our Selves; made us, we confess, very *Cold and Indifferent* in His Majesties *Defence*, against a *Prince of the Blood*, of our *Own Religion*, whole *Errand* (as we were told) *Was to Preserve our Religion and Laws, and the Just Succession of the Royal Line*. This only could have made us endure an Action we should else have hated; presuming our *Kings Loss*, should have been *His Gain*; and our *Yielding*, our *Victory*: But since we behold, to our unspeakable Grief, that our *Condescension* is *Treacherously* abused to private Ends; and that *shew* of our *Disloyalty*, not made a *Remedy* to the Government, but a *Ruine* to our King, and an *Infamy* to our Selves, to serve the turn of some Mens *Avarice* and *Ambition*; We think fit to *Protest* against such *Injustice*, and to declare, *We neither know, nor will acknowledge any other King, then JAMES the Second, who is our Lawful Sovereign while He lives*; and this Resolution we will maintain upon all Occasions, as becomes *Loyal Subjects* and good *Protestants* to do. Nor ought this to appear a blind or unreasonable Sacrifice on our parts; since we can find neither *Truth* nor *Justice* in the Reason given for *laying His Majesty aside*: For the *Kings Desertion*, so much spoken of, was a plain *Necessity*, and not a *Crime*: Had those *Foraigers* that *Conquer'd*, but *by leave*, suffered Him to stay a King at Home, He had never gone Abroad; but if it were a *Crime*, it was *against Himself*, and not against the *Kingdom*: His *Sins* against the Nation we have daily expected to hear of: *Those black Practices* that brought the *Prince of Orange* hither to save us, and do his *Princes Right*: It is plain His *Desertion*, which is now made the fault to *Dethrone* Him, could be none of them; for that was not foreseen by the *Prince*, or those that called him in: And we *Challenge* those that have *Impeached* Him to prove to us, as clearly as they made us believe they could, that the *Birth of the Prince of Wales is an Imposure*, that the *King has made a League with France to cut off the Protestants of these Kingdoms*; and that *His Brother and the Earl of Essex were Murdered by His appointment*. Had these vile Things been proved upon Him, we had done with Him forever; and till then, common *Honesty* would fly in our Faces if we should *Desert* Him: And though His *Enemies* have been able to deceive us, we hope they shall not be able to *Destroy* us. If our *Good nature* hath suffered us to be easily abus'd, our *Integrity* will oblige us as quickly and thoroughly to *resent* it: And therefore since we cannot have their proofs, *We must and will have our King again for all this*.

We know the excuse that is made for this profound *Silence*, that they forbear to prove this black Charge, *Out of pure Tendernefs to the King*; but we are not to learn at this time of the day, the great *Tendernefs* of my Lords Shro. Mord. Lov. Mr. Harb. Burn. and Ferg. towards His Majesty; no more then the *Gratitude* of my Lords Moug. Chur. Bark. and the Bishop of Durh. or the *Mercy* of Kirk, or the *Valour* of Lene. or the *Morals* of all of them.

But if those Gentlemen and their Partners are too tender to prove their Charge, why did they make it? and if they cannot do it, why do they proceed and refuse to open His Letters sent for an *Accommodation*? They have *Accused* His Majesty of *Imposure*, they must prove it, or make themselves the worst of *Imposors*, which is an ill bottom for a *Reformation* to stand upon. It is impossible for men of common Sense to imagine, that three Kingdoms can be taken away from any man, *Out of Tendernefs to Him*, especially if the reason of it be, *That they shew no Cause why they do it*. It is a *Mystory* to us, how they can be so very *Tender* of His *Credit*, and at the same time, and in the same occasion, so mighty *Careless* of their own. This has so ill a *Face* with us, that the whole seems the *Plot* of a few Men, to serve themselves of the *Kings Popery* and the *Prince of Orange's Protestancy*, to bring the *Honours* and *Profits* of the Government into their own Hands; which is not *preserving our Property*, but *making a Property of Us*.

It is this that compels us to say, and declare to the whole World, we look upon our selves to be *Cheated*, and our King to be *Betrayed and Betrayed out of all his Kingdoms*. Nor can the *Prince* be *Blameless*, if he yields to what they would give him for their own sakes, since that were only to do his and their business, and not the Kingdoms. It is not enough to say, it is put upon him, for none can believe a few *Naked Conventurers* could force him at the head of his Army to take *Three Crowns* from his *Father, Brother, Sister, and Wife* against his

his own Will and Declaration: And that he should do it out of pure *Self-denial*, is as incomprehensible, as that he could do it *justly* after what he has said to the *States*, and to us to the contrary. If therefore he came for *less* than 3 Crowns, *less* than 3 Crowns should satisfy him: If nothing less will content him; our *Preservation* was not the *real Motive* of his coming, and then the *hazards* he run upon that score, cannot be justly placed to the account of *Merit*. The King of *France* himself (for ought we know) would have turned *Protestant* for the Bargain, which had been at least as great a *Miracle*, as any we have yet seen in this Affair. And though what we have said, were sufficient to deter all good *Protestants* from taking any part in the Work now in hand, yet we cannot forbear expressing our Zeal against those *Evil Practices*, by letting our Country-men know the great Mischief that must inevitably follow upon such a Revolution, *viz.* *Reproach, Violence, Taxes, Blood, and Poverty.*

First, We shall become the *Reproach* and *Scorn* of all Nations: It cannot be otherwise when Subjects attempt to *Judge* and *Deprive* their *Sovereign*, which is a great *Contradiction*, as well as *Danger* in Government: But to do it without being so much as *once heard or Summoned*, is an Injury not to be acted towards the meanest of His Subjects: King Charles the 1 had fairer Quarter from *Cromwel* and *Bradshaw*: They did not only Charge Him, but offered matter in Evidence to maintain the Charge: But this King, must be Guilty of what His Accusers *refuse* to prove, if yet able to do it; and be *Dethroned* for Deserting the Kingdom, though *He could not help it*. Nor do these Gentlemen stop here; they will *Change the Crown*, as well as the King; They will not be contented to lay him by, but *Choose* who shall follow; and by that make the Crown *Elective*, which for above 600 years has been *Successive*: A thing, they lye under no necessity to do, but is the pure effect of their adventerous and flattering Humour. Can this do less than render us Odious to the whole World, when the King they lay aside, never attempted so great an *Alteration* in any branch of the Constitution.

2dly. We are inevitably in a *State of Force*; for what is gotten by Force, must by Force be maintained; and let us flatter our selves what we will, it is not a Vote of Parliament, but the nature of the thing that will prevail: They that make the Change, must and will use Force for Their own Security, whatever becomes of Ours.

3dly. The Charge of the Revolution, will be intolerable in a while; We shall lay down a Computation of one years Expende for an Instance.

To 70 Sail of Great and Small Ships of War in the Channel, and 12 Fire Ships and Tenders for one year	1400000 l.
To 8 Sail in the Straits and five in America for the same time	0130000 l.
To Transporting and Maintaining 15000 Men to be employed in Ire-land for one year with Artillery, &c.	500000 l.
To the Charge of sending and keeping an Army in the Low Countries of 15000 Men for a year	0500000 l.
For an Army of 15000 Men in England yearly	0300000 l.
The Total	2830000 l.

To this must be added the *Expende* of *Civil Government* at Home, *Embassies*, *Intelligence*, *Secret Services* abroad, *Domestick* or Family *Expences*, *Charges* upon the Revenue for *Debts* owing, or by *Pensions* to Persons Aged, Necessitous, or Meritorious, which will mount it to above *Three Millions*, and that is more than one *Third* of the yearly value of the whole Kingdom. To this must be added the *Abatement* that will necessarily follow, both in the *Customs* and *Excise*, by reason of war and decay of Trade; which in the *Customs* alone, cannot be less than one *Third*, and that comes to at least 400000 l. a year.

Here is *Poverty* like an Armed Man: All Rents must fall at least one half. No Employments can be had in proportion to the Poor: The means of *Charity*, as well as *Hearts* to give it, will be wanting; the *Objects* of it must extremely increase, and that so very suddenly, that it will not be in our power to hinder it, if we have not that Peace, which nothing else can give us, but the Restoration of our right Master.

4thly. And for Blood, can we hope to escape it in War? First, by Sea, it is not to be avoided; by Land, we will invade the Territories or Conquests of *France*, if he in our King's Quarrel, does not invade us first. Secondly, Their is Blood with a Vengeance, tho' we are not beaten, but if we are beaten, there is Blood with *Rebellion* upon us, which will not end without Blood in Peace, and almost an infinite *fontaine* of *Estates*. Thirdly, We are not assured we shall be long quiet within our selves, many strong *Factions* already appearing; and we are less assured, that *Scotland* will not be in Arms, and find something to do in this *Conjuncture*, that has a King to lose and to chuse as well as we. For *Ireland*, we are assured, or ought to be, they who possess the Government, will lose it at as dear a rate as they can. Their All is at stake, and they are not without hopes by the *French King's* assistance, to recover all for their Own, and will value themselves to him and the World, by revenging our *Despising* and *Insolence* both to Him and Them. Nor can we think they will endure this Indignity to the first King of their Religion, since the *Reformation*; or suffer those to be ill used here, that have faithfully served their King, without meeting the same measure to some disloyal persons there. Otherwise, as little will as we allow the *Irish* to have, they have enough to know that a *Massacre*, which we so much talk of, would be their own ruin, and that if they carry it fair to the *English*, they will in a while gain those there to join them, and more than there too, for the Restoration of their and our Lawful King. But be it as it will, whether we regard our selves, *Scotland*, *Ireland*, or *Holland*; war and Blood look us in the Face, and *Poverty* and *Misery* must follow: These are like to be the sad Consequences of this *Celebrated Change*.

Now whether our *Dangers* were so great, or our *Fears* so just, as to require all this alteration for our Security, days of Affliction can only inform us, if we will still be deaf to those just and peaceable *Expostitions*, that have been often proposed to us. We shall close our *Remonstrance*, with this caution to the present *base Men*, that since They cannot honestly lay Their King aside, without entering into the *Merits* of the Cause, which it is plain They wave; and in as much as They cannot justly say, He has laid Himself aside, by Deserting Them, when His Desertion, is coercive and against His will, Let Them repent of what They have done, and let Us all join, for the prevention of Civil, as well as Foreign bloody wars, to fetch Him Home to the Kingdoms of His Fathers, with Greater Glory than He came first to Them; and it shall not lessen It, that it be done with Greater Security to our just Freedoms.

F I N I S.

